

VZCZCXYZ0001
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTH #0818 1621333
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 101333Z JUN 08
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1963
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0265
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0336

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 000818

SIPDIS

DEPT ALSO FOR EUR/SE, IO/RHS (OSTERMEIER) AND DRL/MLGA
(SICADE)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/09/2018

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [UN](#) [GR](#)

SUBJECT: UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL: GREECE ALSO DISSATISFIED

REF: STATE 61034

Classified By: A/Political Counselor Jeff Hovenier for 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) A/Political Counselor met June 10 with Ambassador Mercurios Karafotias, the new Director of the MFA's D1 Directorate for UN and International Organizations and Conferences to deliver reftel points expressing U.S. concerns with the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). Karafotias responded that Greece is also "dissatisfied" with the UNHRC's performance to date. Given the U.S.' decision that it can no longer fully participate, even as an observer in the UNHRC, Karafotias said that the Greek Mission in Geneva "stands ready" to ensure that the U.S. Mission in Geneva remains "up to date" on UNHRC activities.

¶2. (C) Karafotias also said that Greece agrees that it is important to highlight human rights concerns at this year's UN General Assembly and to "be ready" for the UN General Assembly review of the UNHRC when it occurs in 2011. He asked that the U.S. keep the Greek Missions to the UN in New York and Geneva and the Greek MFA apprised of U.S. plans for human rights initiatives for the UNGA.
SPECKHARD